

- (b) when this study has commissioned;
- (c) by when this study would be completed;
- (d) whether Government will help such orthopaedically handicapped beggars to get artificial aids and equipment; and
- (e) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Not applicable.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal for exclusively assisting Orthopaedically handicapped beggars under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of AIDS/Appliances (ADIP) Scheme. However under ADIP Scheme, needy disabled persons are assisted in procuring aids/ appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and to enhance their economic potential.

Social security system for elderly

2078. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state whether Government have any intention to establish a comprehensive system of social security for the elderly; if, so, the details of such scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): Yes, Sir. The Government is in the process of bringing in a legislation to ensure maintenance, care and protection of parents and senior citizens.

Cases of witch-hunting

2079. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that witch-hunting is still prevailing in many States of the country;